

**THE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ON THE VALIDATION OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS
AND
THE NTP INTERAGENCY CENTER FOR THE
EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVE TOXICOLOGICAL METHODS**

The Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) was established in 1997 by the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to implement NIEHS directives in Public Law 103-43. P.L. 103-43 directed NIEHS to develop and validate new test methods, and to establish criteria and processes for the validation and regulatory acceptance of toxicological testing methods. P. L. 106-545, the ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000, establishes ICCVAM as a permanent committee. The Committee is composed of representatives from 15 Federal regulatory and research agencies that generate, use, or provide information from toxicity test methods for risk assessment purposes. P.L. 106-545 directs ICCVAM to coordinate technical reviews and evaluations of new, revised, and alternative test methods of interagency interest. ICCVAM also coordinates cross-agency issues relating to development, validation, acceptance, and national/international harmonization of toxicological test methods.

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM) was established in 1998 to provide operational support for the ICCVAM and to collaborate with the ICCVAM to carry out committee-related activities such as test method peer reviews and workshops. NICEATM and ICCVAM coordinate the scientific review of the validation status of proposed methods and provide recommendations regarding their usefulness to appropriate agencies. NICEATM and ICCVAM seek to promote the validation and regulatory acceptance of toxicological test methods that will enhance agencies' abilities to assess risks and make decisions, and that will refine, reduce, and replace animal use. The ultimate goal is to improve public health by gaining the regulatory acceptance of new scientifically valid test methods that are more predictive of human and ecological effects than currently available methods.

Additional Information

Additional information can be found at the ICCVAM/Center Website: <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov> and the publication: *Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Toxicological Test Methods, a Report of the ad hoc Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods* (NIH Publication No. 97-3981), or you may contact the Center at telephone 919-541-3398, or by e-mail at iccvam@niehs.nih.gov. Specific questions about ICCVAM and the Center can be directed to the Director of NICEATM:

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ICCVAM Agencies and Programs

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease
Registry
Consumer Product Safety Commission
Department of Agriculture
Department of Defense
Department of Energy
Department of Interior
Department of Transportation
Environmental Protection Agency
Food and Drug Administration

National Cancer Institute
National Institute of Environmental Health
Sciences
National Institutes of Health, Office of the
Director
National Institute of Occupational Safety and
Health
National Library of Medicine
Occupational Safety and Health Administration